

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently Amended) A double-deck elevator, comprising:
an upper cage and a lower cage for accommodating passengers and vertically movable together in a hoistway provided in a building; [[and]]
covers for covering a space between the upper cage and the lower cage at a doorside, two lateral sides and a backside of the space;
~~wherein at least one of the covers which covers the space at the doorside of the space is positioned closer to a doorside inner wall of the hoistway than a door driving unit provided in the space which opens and closes~~ for opening and closing at least one door [[doors]] of the lower cage; and [[cages]]
at least one connecting link for connecting the door to the door-driving unit;
wherein at least one of the covers which covers the space at the doorside of the space covers the door driving unit and a top portion of the connecting link and has a first portion extending downwardly from the upper cage and positioned closer to a doorside inner wall of the hoistway than the door driving unit, and a second portion extending from the first portion to the door driving unit and including at least one slit through which the connecting link is inserted.

29. (Currently Amended) A double-deck elevator according to claim 28, further comprising a closing member for closing a clearance between a periphery of the slit and the connecting link ~~wherein said at least one of the covers which covers the space at the doerside is provided with at least one slit through which at least one door-link for connecting the door to the door driving unit is inserted.~~

30. (Currently Amended) A double-deck elevator according to claim 29, ~~further comprising a closing member for closing a clearance between a periphery of the slit and the door link,~~ wherein said closing member ~~[[being]]~~ is made of an elastic material and ~~allowing~~ allows a displacement of said door link by an elastic deformation thereof.

31. (Currently Amended) A double-deck elevator according to claim 29, ~~further comprising a closing member for closing a clearance between a periphery of the slit and the door link,~~ wherein said closing member ~~[[being]]~~ is formed as a bellows and ~~allowing~~ allows a displacement of said door link by an elastic expansion and contraction thereof.

32. (Currently Amended) A double-deck elevator according to claim 29, ~~further comprising a closing member for closing a clearance between a periphery of the slit and the door link,~~ wherein said closing member ~~[[being]]~~ is formed as a brush type and ~~allowing~~ allows a displacement of the door link by an elastic deflection thereof.